

THE AIRSTREAM

910th Airlift Wing
Youngstown Air Reserve Station
Air Force Reserve Command

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We should make education and PME top priorities

By Lt. Col. Mark S. Glibbery
Vice Commander

In the Air Force Reserve, education should be a top priority for everyone, regardless of rank or age because in order to meet the future needs of the Air Force, we have to work smarter and more efficiently. Learning in the formal education process is key to achieving these goals. This idea goes far beyond simply advancing your technical skill within your chosen career field.

The Air Force offers an abundance of opportunities for all personnel to further their Professional Military Education (PME) and to advance their academic credentials. There are many ways to figure out what is appropriate for you. Probably one of the most effective ways to develop an education plan is to talk to your mentor. That person should have specific insight into your individual needs and the educational goals you should pursue now and in the future. If you don't have a mentor, you might want to get one, either formally or informally. Contact your supervisor for more information.

Another option, or your next stop after talking with your mentor, is the Education & Training office in Building 101. Keep in mind they can be more helpful if you have a specific set of goals in mind. Chief Master Sgt. Lori Stone, chief of the Training office, just published locally, an outstanding education overview of college degree programs. It is an excellent summary of the different ways you can get college credit and degrees through Air Force and DoD programs such as the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), the Montgomery G.I. Bill, etc. An excellent link to all PME is <https://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/HQ/DP/DPT/default.htm> Select "Training Support" then "PME Program" or simply stop by and visit our Training office in Bldg. 101.

Speaking of PME, you need it. It is absolutely essential for

promotion. Both enlisted and officer personnel should recognize the importance of PME.

Think of it as organizational training. How can you expect to advance in rank and responsibility if you don't take the time to gain a better understanding of how the whole organization operates? Like any learning

experience, PME is a function of attitude. If you approach the NCO Academy (Course 6) or ACSC with an attitude of "I just want to pass the tests," you will probably learn very little and have a miserable time. If, on the other hand, you approach PME with a positive attitude, then read and digest the material, you will most likely learn some very important lessons and, dare I say it, find it interesting.

One last piece of advice. Don't wait until the last minute. Academic degrees don't happen overnight. You have to plan years in advance and it is done incrementally, one course at a time. Additionally, PME is not something you start just before you are to be considered for promotion. While it may not take as long as an academic degree, PME should be started as soon as you are eligible.

Remember, advancement in the Air Force is limited by your education and that is pretty well defined in the promotion regulations and statistics. Education alone will not guarantee promotion, but it's a pretty sure bet you won't get promoted if you neglect your education.



Lt. Col. Mark S. Glibbery

For what would you be willing to sacrifice your life?

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Paul R. Milliken
Chaplain

We encounter so few truly dedicated people nowadays. The following announcement located on a factory bulletin board is representative of this fact:

It's come to management's attention, some employees have been dying on the job and refusing to keel over. This practice must stop. Since it's impossible for supervisors to distinguish between death and the natural movements of some employees on the job, an uncomfortable situation is created when someone dies and gives no indication. Often we have no way of knowing who's dead and who's alive until the whistle blows at 5 p.m. Please give serious attention to this matter. – The Management

Perhaps you have one or more of these folks in your duty section. It's a shame. Think what might be accomplished if we were all highly committed.

Early Sunday morning October 30, 1983, a Mercedes truck loaded with a ton of dynamite, rolled past security barricades and crashed into the lobby of the Eighth Marine Battalion in

Beirut, Lebanon. Seconds later, the terrorist driver ignited the explosives and the building collapsed, killing 229 Marines and wounding another 81. During a press conference following an investigation of the tragic incident, a reporter pointedly asked a general officer from the Pentagon how one individual could breach such tight security and cause so much damage.

The general replied, "In sight of our defensive weapons, it's still virtually impossible to stop those willing to die for what they believe."

This is true. It is virtually impossible to stop those willing to pay the price for that which they believe. Let me ask, "For what would you be willing to sacrifice your life? A beloved spouse? A child? A comrade in arms?"

The fear of death can be a debilitating hindrance, as can the fear of humiliation, or the pain of rejection. What's keeping you from selling out and being totally committed?



Chaplain Paul R. Milliken

910th cops welcome new boss . . .

By Master Sgt. Everett Radcliffe

910th Security Forces Squadron
Unit Public Affairs Representative

The 910th Security Forces Squadron welcomed a new commander Nov. 1. Maj. Ronald E. Coburn Jr. actually arrived in mid-October as the Air Reserve Technician Chief of Security Forces, and officially became squadron commander Saturday of the November UTA.

Coburn's diverse experience began in 1984 as an enlisted member assigned to Accounting & Finance and Security Forces in the Rhode Island Air National Guard. He was a technical sergeant when he accepted his commission.

As an officer he has been assigned as 301st Security Forces Squadron commander, Fort Worth JRB, Texas. He was also deployed worldwide including Spangdahlem (Germany), Cairo, Osan, and most recently Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, as the Installation Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Officer and Base Defense Operations Center Officer-in-Charge.

Prior to joining the Air Force, he worked for the states of Texas and Rhode Island as a

Senior Chemist in Atmospheric Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry. He has a B.S. in Chemistry & Chemical Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island Kingston. His wife, Jane, also has a chemistry degree and teaches chemistry at their local high school.

Coburn's wife and three children will relocate by next summer, giving him several months to follow through on plans to build a new home. His wife also needs to complete the school year where she teaches.

"Many people told me that this area was a great place to have a family and raise children," said Coburn. He was also very impressed with the base facilities and even more impressed by the personnel.

"The leadership here looks outstanding. It seems like they really take care of their people and the result is obvious in everything I've seen. Many people have stated to me how they enjoy coming to work and you can



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Richard A. Lisum

Coburn said that his best attribute was the ability to facilitate change in a changing Air Force, and ensure that no troop feels like they are 'on their own.'

see they take pride in the mission."

Maj. Coburn said he is looking forward to the challenges and changes on the horizon, like the conversion of ART to AGR positions that will take place over the next three to four years. He also looks forward to developing the 'Pathfinder' initiative.

"Pathfinder may significantly increase our capabilities in security and force protection and other areas, and I'll do all I can to make sure it serves us well."

Maj. Coburn was born in Tacoma, Wash., and grew up in Warwick, R.I.

Army National Guard soldiers continue activation at 910th

By Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple

Public Affairs Superintendent

The new year has brought with it another year of active duty at the 910th Airlift Wing for 20 Army National Guard soldiers from Co. B Task Force 112th Engineers from Lorain, Ohio.

In January 2003, 31 soldiers from the 112th were activated and assigned to duty to help augment the force protection program at

Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Joe Fongheiser, the 112th's site NCO here at the base, 20 soldiers have agreed to remain on active duty here at the request of the 910th Security Forces Squadron. Four other soldiers accepted assignments to other bases and seven have demobilized.

Due to worldwide commitments, the Army is scaling back security augmentee support

to stateside Air Force bases, so the Air Force is providing about 3,000 volunteer opportunities for air reserve component personnel to accomplish force protection augmentee duties.

The ARC force protection augmentee volunteer program will offer voluntary MPA tours to ARC personnel in grades E-1 through E-6, in any AFSC. For more information on these opportunities, visit: <https://vrs.afrc.af.mil>.

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On the cover...

Senior Master Sgt. George Saad, from the 910th Maintenance Sq., was warmly greeted by his wife, Edie, on the icy December 11 afternoon that he and other deployed reservists returned home from their four-month deployment. Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan.

910th People



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Four Hundred Carrot Holiday Surprise:

Staff Sgt. Ernie Raeon from the 910th Services Squadron, pours carrots in preparation of the annual "holiday meal" during the December UTA.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

A Taste Of Her Own Medicine:

Senior Airman Chrystal Gibson, a 910th Medical Squadron technician, gets her own shot records updated with the help of Senior Airman Scott Smith, also from the medical squadron. Ironically, Gibson says she "hates needles, and can relate to her customers when they're nervous about shots."



Photo by Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple

Snow Job:

Staff Sgt. Robert Palcic and Senior Airman Ben Gumont, heavy equipment operators from the 910th Civil Engineer Sq., always check their vehicles for proper operation before subjecting them to the Youngstown winter weather.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Gold's Always Nice For The Holidays:

Senior Airman Kenya Shipp from the 910th Services Sq., prepares for the December UTA holiday meal by adding decorations around the dining facility.

910th transfers four C-130s to Minneapolis

By Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple
Public Affairs Superintendent

The Youngstown Air Reserve Station flightline has four extra aircraft parking spots these days after the 910th completed a transfer of four C-130H2 aircraft November 21 to the Air Force Reserve's 934th Airlift Wing at Minneapolis-St. Paul Air Reserve Station, Minn. The transfer had been announced as part of the Air Force's 15-year Mobility Roadmap Plan, which was briefed to Air Force and congressional leaders April 15, 2002.

Details of the plan include modernizing or retiring some C-5 Galaxy and C-130 Hercules aircraft, and also includes buying more C-17 Globemaster IIIs to replace many of the retired transports. Air Force officials have reasoned that the plan would result in an airlift fleet that is 30 percent more reliable, will cost less to operate and maintain and carry more cargo to where America's war fighters need it.

Col. Steve Chapman, commander of the 910th Operations Group, expects the transfer to result in minimal impact on the wing.

"Our flying operations tempo will continue to be high as it has for some time now. Our aircraft maintenance program here is outstanding and they'll continue to stay on top of generating aircraft for missions," said Chapman. "This transfer is merely the military's effort to place assets where they're



Photo by Staff Sgt. Troy Novak

Brig. Gen. Michael F. Gjede, (right) commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, presents Col. James J. Muscatell Jr., commander of the 934th Airlift Wing, HQ AFRC C-130H Aircraft Assignment Directive Number 04-001 which reassigned four C-130s from the 910th to the 934th on the Minneapolis ARS flightline November 21.

needed most and replace older assets as well," he said.

Tech. Sgt. Jim Samples had been the primary aircraft maintenance crew chief on aircraft 91-9143 since January 1, 1999.

"My crew and I used to have a feeling of ownership when 143 was here. That plane was what we worked on most of the time. Tech. Sgt. Kenny Jones used to be my full-time assistant crew chief and we knew the characteristics of everything on that plane

from the tool boxes to the floor panels."

For Samples, being assigned as a primary crew chief on an aircraft that has been transferred to another unit is sort of like raising children.

"The planes have personalities too. You get to know them and how they operate. That plane was a part of me and I was a part of it. Seeing it leave us was kind of like watching your kid go off to college after raising her," he said.

Civil Engineers welcome new commander

By Capt. Brent J. Davis
Public Affairs Officer

Last month, the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron welcomed their newest leader as he took command of the "can-do" professionals. Lt. Col. Christopher L. Kenny assumed command of the squadron Dec. 7, 2003 as Lt. Col. Fred Antoon handed over the squadron flag and set his sights on retirement after 26 years of service.

Kenny joined the Air Force in 1981 as a base missile engineer officer for the Minuteman II at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. He served on active duty until November 1986 when he transitioned to the Air Force Reserve to work in Civil Engineering under 10th Air Force.

Kenny was assigned to the 911th Civil Engineer Squadron at Pittsburgh in June 1989 and served there until 1993. He then commanded the 625th CES in Morgantown, W.Va. until 1995 when he returned to the 911th serving as CES Operations Chief until 1999.

Kenny joined the 910th CES as Chief of Operations and Maintenance in April 1999. From December 2002 to April 2003, Kenny commanded the 620th Expeditionary Airbase Group in Kosovo.

Kenny resides on the west side of Cleveland in the suburb of Bay Village. He is married to his wife Barbara who is also an Air Force reservist assigned to the Selective Service in Cleveland. He and his

wife have two children, Patrick, 18, and Kimberly, 12.

In his civilian life, Kenny stays busy as a volunteer in his community. He is involved in a local elementary school chess club teaching chess fundamentals to pre-kindergartners through fourth graders. Kenny also volunteers at the village youth center in various types of games.

"Kosovo was a good growing experience that will help me as a commander. It's important for me to become involved at all levels of CE if necessary. I enjoy getting my hands dirty in a team effort," said Kenny.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. James E. Morgan

Lt. Col. Chris L. Kenny (right) assumes command of 910th CES.

910th Gets the call

By Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan
Public Affairs Specialist

More than 230 reservists from the 910th were called to active duty December 1 in support of the continuing war on terrorism. On the day of activation, members of the 773rd Airlift Squadron and 910th Maintenance Squadron gathered for a series of briefings, paperwork processing and opportunities to bring immediate concerns to personnel from key units.

Representatives of several units related to out-processing were staged to meet with each reservist, including medical, legal, finance, personnel and family readiness.

According to Master Sgt. Richard Glus, base historian, the current activation marked the single largest total activation in the history of Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

A small group of activated people left here December 11 in advance of a larger deployment to the country of Kyrgyzstan to become part of the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing. Once they have established the ground plan for arriving 910th troops, many of the remaining people will be scheduled to deploy.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

All 230+ reservists-turned-active duty people were successfully processed in a mere four hours.

Welcome to Kyrgyzstan

Some good-to-know info on "Kyrg-ville"

Official Name	Kyrgyz Republic
Capital	Bishkek
Political Affiliation	Republic
President	Askar Akayev
Population	5.1 million
Languages	Kyrgyz, Russian
Currency-"Som"	Per USD - 47
Religions	Muslim, Russ. Orthodox
Temp. Avgs.	High-70 deg./Low-20 deg.
Independence Day	31 August (1991)



Kyrgyzstani national flag

A red field and yellow sun with 40 rays representing the 40 Kyrgyz tribes; the rays run counterclockwise, but clockwise on the reverse; in the center of the sun is a red ring crossed by two sets of three lines, a stylized representation of the roof of the traditional Kyrgyz yurt (hut)

- Kyrgyzstan is slightly smaller than South Dakota.
- The Tien Shan mountain range separates it from China on the southern border.
- Exports include cotton, wool, gold, uranium and natural gas
- Water contamination is a common, recurring problem.

Source: www.cia.gov

910th Gets the call



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Understandably, many questions during processing were pay-related. Maureen Schoeppner from 910th Finance was one of the many people on hand to clear things up.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

(from left) 2nd Lt. Wendy Prokop and Master Sgt. Joe Dagenais, 910th Intel, and Master Sgt. Lindy Pavkovich, 773rd Aviation Resource Mgr., had seen deployment action before and took the process in stride.

Historically Speaking:

Kyrgyzstan's (formerly Kirghizia) native Kyrgyz are an ancient Turkic people who first settled in the Tien Shan mountains (95% of the country). Traditionally pastoral nomads, Kyrgyz and it's people share a rich history.

1900:

-Extensive Russian colonization occurs
-Settlers get best agricultural land

1916:

-Kyrgyz people revolt against the Russian settlers and leadership

1924:

-Kyrgyzstan becomes part of Soviet Federated Socialist Republic
-Autonomy in 1926

1936:

-Became a constituent republic of the USSR

1991:

-Proclaimed independence
-Joined Commonwealth of Independent States

1992:

-Joined International Monetary Fund and United Nations

2001:

-Coalition troops permitted to be stationed in cooperation with War on Terrorism.

Source: www.infoplease.com

Ready to Roll

By Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan
Public Affairs Specialist

For many members of the 910th Airlift Wing, activations and deployments are nothing new. But for some, it may be a new and uncertain experience.

The 910th Military Personnel Flight helped make sure that the current activation process was as smooth as possible for everyone.

For Staff Sgt. Angela Hoffman, 773rd Personnel, this was a first-time call.

"I was called last week. At first I was pretty nervous about it, but now that I know more about what's going on, I'm more comfortable about everything," said Hoffman.

Being ready and able to handle issues

reservists have before a deployment is part of a normal day's work for 910th Military Personnel Flight staffers.

Chief Master Sgt. Mary Julian, superintendent of the Military Personnel Flight, used her training and experience to help develop an activation process that made life easier for everyone.

The result was a very successful operation.

"The whole thing went really smoothly. Our people were prepared to handle this, and the activated reservists were very cooperative and patient."

Many of the issues addressed by the processing line dealt with finances.

"Most of the people had pay questions. They wanted to be sure the pay and benefits were arranged correctly for themselves or their families," she said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Staff Sgt. Angela Hoffman was initially nervous, but was ready to answer the call to duty.

Tax relief law aids military, families

WASHINGTON – Reservists who travel more than 100 miles to attend drills or meetings no longer have to itemize to claim a tax deduction for overnight travel expenses.

This change and other benefits for members of Air Force Reserve Command and their families are the result of the Military Family Tax Relief Act of 2003, signed into law by President George W. Bush Nov. 11. The “above-the-line” deduction for overnight travel is retroactive to Jan. 1.

“(Reservists will) be able to deduct unreimbursed travel expenses such as lodging, 50 percent of meals and any transportation costs,” said Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

Another major change increases the death gratuity payment to \$12,000 and provides that the full payment is tax-free. That portion of the act is retroactive to Sept. 10, 2001, to provide for servicemembers who died in the terrorist attacks the following day and in the ongoing global war on terror.

“If you are killed on active duty, regardless of whether you’re in theater, or in a training accident or die from disease, your family receives \$12,000 death gratuity that is not taxed,” Fenton said. “And that’s a big change. In addition, any future increases to the death gratuity will remain tax-free.”

Since 1991, the death gratuity had been \$6,000, with half of it being taxed, Fenton said.

“It just didn’t seem to be fair for the military family who was left grieving for their servicemember to get hit with a tax bill,” she said.

When the tax code changed in 1986, it allowed any military benefit existing in September 1986 to remain tax-free, Fenton said. However, it was always unclear whether military child care was included in that, she added.

“This act merely makes it clear that those provisions of child care were intended to be tax-free to military members,” she said.

The tax act also provides for extra tax-filing time for servicemembers serving in contingency operations. The internal revenue code allows servicemembers who are serving in combat zones or hazardous-duty areas to have an extension of time – usually 180 days from the time the person leaves the combat zone – to file taxes.

“A lot of military operations don’t rise to the level of being declared by the president as ‘combat,’” Fenton said. “But there are several contingency operations where servicemembers are outside the continental United States.”

The act also includes modifying eligibility criteria of tax-exempt veterans organizations; tax-free treatment of homeowners’ assistance program

payments; suspension of tax-exempt status for designated terrorist organizations; and extension of victims’ tax relief to astronauts who die on space missions.

Capital-gain exclusion for home sales is another area people are looking for tax relief in, Fenton said.

“This act will allow members to suspend the period of time which they have to sell their home and take the tax exclusion so they won’t have to pay that capital gains,” she said. “It’s retroactive to 1997 so military members who have sold their homes since 1997 have one year from Nov. 11, 2003, to request a refund for any tax they did pay.”

Since 1997, when the law was previously changed, if servicemembers who owned a home got reassigned more than 50 miles from that home or was ordered to move on post, they were no longer able to roll over the gain from that sale to the next home they purchased.

Also since 1997, individuals could exclude up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 for married couples) of gain from the sale of a home if they resided in it for two of the five years preceding the sale. Under this act, military and foreign service people can suspend (for up to 10 years) the time transferred away from home on official extended duty for purposes of applying the five-year portion of the two-out-of-five-year rule. (AFRC News Service)

910th Veteran’s Association awards scholarships

By Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple

Public Affairs Superintendent

Since 1994, the 910th/757th Veteran’s Association has been assisting college students with their education expenses via the association’s “Chief Master Sergeant Edwin Rivera Memorial Scholarship” program.

At the association’s October business meeting a five-person selection committee awarded scholarship grants to the following students:

Chad Donley is the grandson of Col. William Donley (Ret.) who served with the 757th Tactical Airlift Squadron. Chad is enrolled at the University of Akron with a goal of becoming an orthopedic surgeon.

Marla Bluedorn is the daughter of Chief Master Sgt. Frank Prevac (Ret.) who served with the 910th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Marla is attending Youngstown State University (YSU) studying in the dental hygiene program.

Megan Kerrigan is the daughter of Tech. Sgt. James Kerrigan (Ret.) who had served with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Megan is attending YSU striving to become an elementary school teacher.

Rebecca Albani is the granddaughter of Chief Master Sgt. Eugene Albani (Ret.) who served with the 910th Airlift Group headquarters and was once the 910th Senior Enlisted Advisor. Rebecca is an education major at YSU.

David Wright is the grandson of Master Sgt. Edward Wright (Ret.) who formerly served with the 757th Tactical Airlift Squadron. Seeking education in physical therapy and biology, David is also enrolled at YSU.

There are currently 235 people on the association’s membership roster of active reserve and retired military and civilian personnel. The association’s scholarship is available to members, their spouses, their children, or their grandchildren. The organization continually seeks new members to better its established and future goals.

Applications for membership are available by contacting Chief Master Sgt. Mary Julian at the 910th Military Personnel Flight in Bldg. 128 or by calling her at (330) 609-1136.

Applicants must have an identifiable goal, with education from a college or technical school.

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The following is a joint message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

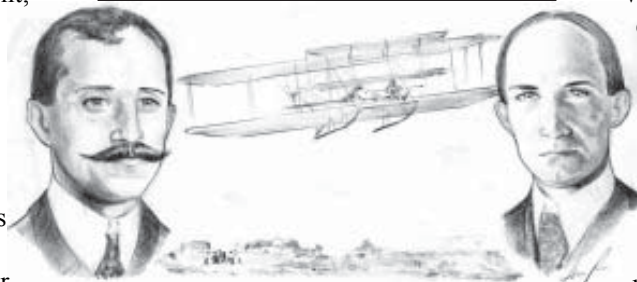
“It was the most significant 12 seconds of the last 100 years.

On Dec. 17, 1903, two bicycle builders from Ohio, Orville and Wilbur Wright, launched the world on a path to the heavens when their rudimentary airplane of wire, wood and canvas wings lifted off a windy, grassy hill at Kitty Hawk.

Since their marvelous achievement, aviation has enabled our expansion, enhanced our commerce and expanded our communication.

Military aviation developed quickly after that first flight. The names and exploits of our airpower pioneers are melded into our nation’s history: Rickenbacker, Mitchell, Doolittle, Davis, Cochran and Yeager,

AF leaders celebrate Centennial of Flight



to name just a few.

While our past is storied, our present and future remain as boundless and adventurous as the Wright Brothers’ dream.

Because of our great airmen in today’s Air Force, we have developed, operated, and exploited advanced weapons systems and technologies — from sensors and aircraft to lasers and satellites — enabling us to own the ultimate high ground and dominate any battlespace.

The Centennial of Flight is as much about our future as it is about our past.

We commend you for all that you do every day to promote this heritage and provide our nation with the finest air and space force in the world.

We’re proud to serve alongside you as we continue to discover ways to slip the surly bonds and deliver peace and freedom for our nation.”

Deployed father attends son’s promotion in Kuwaiti desert

By Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke
Command Chief Master Sgt.
386th Air Expeditionary Wing

ALI AL SALEM AIR BASE, Kuwait—

When supporting U.S. and coalition forces from a base that’s thousands of miles from home and in the deserts of the Middle-East, a little perk like a promotion ceremony can be especially important.

And promotions with family on hand for the event is even more understandably rare at “the Rock.”

Recently promoted Staff Sgt. Joshua Indorf, 386th Operations Group, Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, and loadmaster with the 773rd Airlift Squadron, beamed with joy and pride when he put on his stripe and Chief Master Sgt. Phillip Clark was issuing the NCO Oath of Induction.

Joshua’s dad, Senior Master Sgt. David Indorf, 386th Operations Group, Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, and flight engineer with the 773rd Airlift Squadron, stood right there with him.

Both father and son have been deployed for several months and are glad they are doing their time away from home together.

“My wife, his mother, is waiting for both of us to come home safely,” said David Indorf.

“But what a pleasure and honor to be here today to see my son take the oath and become a new NCO.”



(l to r) Col. Mark Krause, Staff Sgt. Josh Indorf and his proud father.

Courtesy Photo

The wing ceremony was designed to recognize all promotions for the past month.

“Promotion is a great thing and one I am very glad we are able to take some time out to celebrate here at Ali Al Salem,” said Col. Mark Kraus, 386th AEW Commander. “Inducting our newest NCO.”

“We have some superb senior NCOs who worked hard to put on a class ceremony,” he said. “Though we are in a more austere

environment than at home, we can still do our best to recognize the accomplishments of our people — and promotion is one of them.”

Reflecting the spirit of their motto — “One Team, One Fight — Kraus recognized all promotees during the Dec. 5 ceremony, including Chief Master Sgt. David Kane, also from the 910 Airlift Wing.

News Briefs

DoD announces Reserve, Guard unlimited commissary benefits

The Department of Defense announced Nov. 24 that with the president's signing of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, effective immediately, the following members and their dependents will be permitted unlimited access to commissary stores:

- Members of the Ready Reserve (which includes members of the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive National Guard) and members of the Retired Reserve who possess a Uniformed Services Identification Card.
- Former members eligible for retired pay at age 60 but who have not yet attained the age of 60 and who possess a Department of Defense Civilian Identification Card.
- Dependents of the members described above who have a Uniformed Services Identification Card or who have a distinct identification card used as an authorization card for benefits and privileges administered by the Uniformed Services.

Guard and Reserve members were authorized only 24 commissary shopping days per calendar year until Nov. 24 when the president signed the National Defense Authorization Act, which contained provisions eliminating the restrictions.

Commissaries have immediately adopted the new provisions, which means Guard and Reserve members will no longer have to present a Commissary Privilege Card when they shop.

Fed grants more civilian admin leave

WASHINGTON – In a Nov. 14 memorandum, President Bush directed executive departments and agencies to grant five days of uncharged, administrative leave from civilian duties to federal employees returning from active-duty to reservist status.

"The federal government will continue to be the model for employer support to the Guard and Reserve," wrote the president in the memorandum. "We are the guarantors of the rights of returning service members under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, and I am personally committed to providing each of them with our full support, recognition and assistance."

Kay Coles James, director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, issued guidance to department and agency heads on implementing the president's order.

"Many of our employees have endured great disruption to their families and their normal lives as a result of their service in the war against terrorism," James said. "Therefore, I join the president in urging that agencies do everything possible to ease their return to civilian life."

The five work days of excused absence covers employees who were activated for military service in connection with Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Federal agencies will release more guidance explaining the excused leave policy. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service from an OPM news release)

Look for new aerobics classes

The 910th Fitness Center will be offering aerobics classes at noon on Saturday & Sunday of the UTA beginning in January.

One class will be step and the other will be a circuit training class that will incorporate the new fitness training requirements. We also have personal trainers available to help you get started on a program or to provide ideas for your current program.

Call extension 1281 for an appointment.

Chief's Group Super Bowl party slated

The 910th Chief's Group will hold its fourth annual Super Bowl party at the Eagle's Nest Club on base Sunday, Feb. 1, 2004. The event will kick off at 5 p.m.

Quarterly and end-of-game drawings for cash prizes will be held. A quarterly prize of \$700 will be drawn at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters. An end-of-game cash prize of \$900 will be drawn.

Other random cash drawings will be held as well. The cost is \$50 per ticket and one guest ticket for an additional \$5. That makes it only \$55 per couple.

Free finger food, draft beer, and munchies will be available. A cash bar will also be available. The Chief's Group will also be selling tickets to the event at the dining hall both days of the January UTA weekend. The 910th Chief's Group is a non-profit organization that benefits the 910th military family.

Air Force One Source offers help

You try to find enough time for everything--your family, your mission, your community, your life. Whether you're planning your deployment or reunion, preparing for a new baby, coping with a family problem or personal issue, or just dealing with the ups and downs of every day life, Air Force One Source can help make it easier by giving you the support, information and resources you need. When you don't have time, or can't get to an agency on base for assistance, it's easy to access Air Force One Source, on the phone, or online, with one-on-one consultations, articles, seminars and workshops. Get in touch with Air Force One Source anytime by calling 800-707-5784 or visit www.airforceonesource.com.

User ID will be: airforce. Password: ready.

Services to open car wash on base

The 910th Services Division announces the installation of a base car wash. The car wash will be located at Bldg. 515, near the base gas station. It will feature both a self-help wand operation and an automatic touch-free wash system for very reasonable prices.

"We're very excited to offer a new service to the base population," said Henry Shaffer, director of services. "If you can drive on base, you are eligible to use the wash," he said.

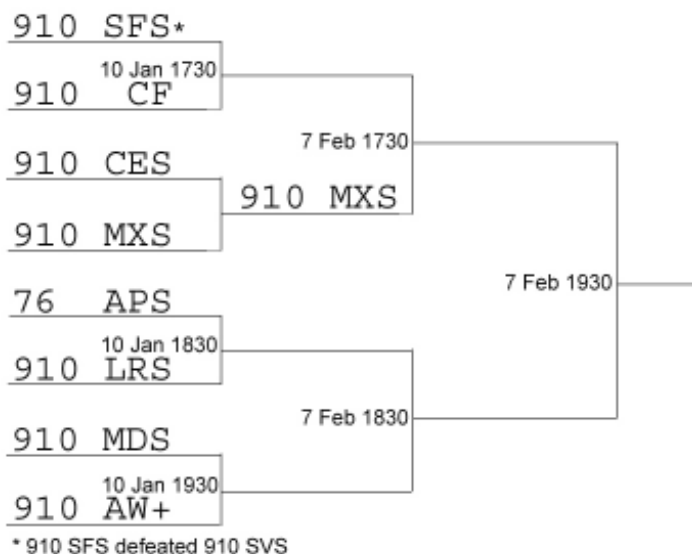
The car wash will also feature a vacuum, change, and vending machines for your auto needs. The equipment was purchased using Morale, Welfare, and Recreation funds as approved by the Non-Appropriated Fund Council and the installation commander. The car wash is expected to open in mid-January.

Newcomers

Please welcome the following new reservists to the 910th Airlift Wing:

Tech. Sgt. Robert Vespi, 910th Med. Sq.
 Staff Sgt. Vincent R. Farkas Jr., 910th Maint. Sq.
 Staff Sgt. Frank J. Gilroy, 910th Log. Readiness Sq.
 Staff Sgt. Steven D. Varga, 910th Maint. Sq.
 Senior Airman Elizabeth Robinson, 910th Med. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Dachele Bufford, 910th Log. Readiness Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Jessica A. Conrad, 910th Services Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Denver J. Craddock, 910th Maint. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Michael Dunn, 76th Aerial Port Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Andrew Hill, 910th Civil Eng. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Nikela S. Howze, 910th Civil Engineer Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Joseph A. Hudson, 76th Aerial Port Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Nicholas J. Karakaian, 910th Aircraft Maint. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Eric Law, 910th Log. Readiness Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Sara M. Nehrenz, 76th Aerial Port Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Rachael Rains, 910th Med. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Michael A. Reed, 910th Maint. Sq.
 Airman 1st Class Erin R. Stoller, 910th Security Forces Sq.
 Airman Johnathan A. Hall, 910th Civil Eng. Sq.
 Airman Mark Cherry, 910th Maint. Sq.
 Airman James A. Hammond, 910th Civil Eng. Sq.
 Airman Karen D. Miller, 910th Civil Engineer Sq.
 Airman Rebecca M. Mohr, 910th Log. Readiness Sq.
 Airman James J. Ward III, 910th Civil Eng. Sq.
 Airman Rayshawn L. Whitsett, 910th Civil Eng. Sq.

Esprit De Corps Basketball Tournament



Airstream Readership Survey Available On-Line

The editorial staff of The Airstream would like to know your comments about the content of The Airstream. Visit www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_index.htm at your convenience. Twenty minutes is about all it will take to answer all the questions. You can do this anonymously or you can leave your name in the comments section.



Courtesy Photo

Time for some R & R

Aircrew members from the 910th Airlift Wing assist members of the U.S. Army somewhere in Iraq as they prepare to board a 910th C-130 to take them on their first leg of a well-deserved two-week period of rest & recreation.

910th Airlift Wing Esprit de Corps Standings

Security Forces	405
Medical	365
Maintenance	270
Aerial Port	260
Services	160
Logistics Readiness Sq.	105
Civil Engineer	95
Communications Flt.	40
757	20
910 AW/MSS	0
773	0

Jan. UTA event - Basketball Quarterfinals
 Feb. UTA event - Basketball Finals

910 AW UTA Schedule

"A" UTA	"B" UTA
10-11 Jan 04	24-25 Jan 04
7- 8 Feb 04	21-22 Feb 04
6- 7 Mar 04	20-21 Mar 04
3- 4 Apr 04	17-18 Apr 04
1-2 May 04	15-16 May 04
19-20 Jun 03	No B UTA
17-18 Jul 04	No B UTA
7-8 Aug 04	21-22 Aug 04
11-12 Sep 04	18-19 Sep 04
2-3 Oct 04	16-17 Oct 04
6-7 Nov 04	20-21 Nov 04
4-5 Dec 04	No B UTA

Bittersweet week at 910th Airlift Wing



Photo by Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple

Senior Airman Larry Felts, 910th Medical Squadron technician, says goodbye to his wife, Julia, also an activated Reservist.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bryan Ripple

Senior Airman Justin Speight of the 773rd Airlift Squadron, meets with reporters before he departs for Kyrgyzstan as his girlfriend, Sarah Griffin, looks on. His parents and siblings were also present to say goodbye.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Reporter Melissa Mack speaks to Master Sgt. Bob Weaver of the 910th Maintenance Squadron, before he departs for Kyrgystan.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Families, reporters and co-workers from the 910th Airlift Wing gathered together and braved the biting cold to greet the arriving reservists.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn David McCowan

Tech. Sgt. Will McDonald, with the 910th Maintenance Squadron, is met by his family on the flightline Dec. 11.

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